

CollegeNow Tompkins Cortland Community College Concurrent Course:
Introduction to Environmental Science and Technology and the Environment
(ENVS 101 and ENVS 102) Course Syllabus 2021-2022

Mrs. Lener

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Course Description:

Introduction to Environmental Science and Technology and the Environment meets the requirements of a two-semester college level environmental science course. This course content follows the rigorous curriculum standards set forth by Tompkins Cortland Community College that would be taken by their first year college students. Reading and writing assignments, oral class room participation, and written assessments such as formal laboratory reports, quizzes, and exams are created and assessed at the college level. Due to this fact, strict attendance policies will be set forth. Your grade in this course will become part of your permanent college record.

This interdisciplinary environmental science course will explore the major concepts pertaining to environmental science, while incorporating field exploration, laboratory technique, data analysis, and scientific literacy/researching skills. Biological concepts pertaining to biodiversity, human population dynamics, pollution, human toxicology, radiation, sustainable agriculture, animal usage in society, and alternative energy and waste management will be explored. Local and global challenges pertaining to these topics will be addressed throughout.

Scientific literature that supports course content will be explored through the use of classic works and current articles/ publications.

What Can Introduction to Environmental Science and Technology and the Environment do for Me?

This course will introduce students to the rigorous nature of a college level course, while exploring the basis of environmental science and the connection between human action and environmental impact. Students will learn the skills necessary to become environmentally conscious citizens, that are also able to take charge of their own health and well-being. Laboratory skills will be improved through data collection and analysis. Students will learn skills in scientific literacy through the reading and reflective writing that will be done using classic works and current publications in the field of environmental science. Successful completion of this course with a "C" or better will result in the accumulation of 6 college credits, which fulfills the SUNY General Education Natural Sciences requirement and will likely transfer to the college of their choice. Over 90% of college institutions accept concurrent enrollment credits.

What do I Need?

- 3 ring binder for all notes, quizzes, lab handouts/reports, exams, and printed articles
- Pens and pencils
- Calculator

Units of Study:

- Biodiversity/Conservation
- Human Population Growth
- Air/Water/Land Pollution
- Assessing Risk and Toxicology
- Independent Project – Animal Usage in America
- Radiation and Human Health
- Sustainable Agriculture
- Alternative Energies/Waste Management

Required Reading (all texts and excerpts will be provided):

Carson, Rachel. *Silent spring*. London: Penguin, in association with Hamish Hamilton, 2015. Print.

Mooallem, Jon. *Wild ones: a sometimes dismaying, weirdly reassuring story about looking at people looking at animals in America*. NY, NY: Penguin, 2014. Print.

Moore, Kate. *Radium girls*. Place of publication not identified: Simon & Schuster Ltd, 2017. Print.

Pollan, Michael. *The botany of desire: a plant's eye view of the world*. New York: Random House, 2002. Print.

Pollan, Michael. *The omnivore's dilemma: a natural history of four meals*. NY, NY: Penguin, 2016. Print.

Steingraber, Sandra. *Living downstream: an ecologist looks at cancer and the environment*. London: Virago, 1998. Print.

Class Expectations:

- Good Attendance:
 - A student must be noted as present at 85% of a course's scheduled classes. It is suggested that students miss less than this for optimum chances of success.
 - For purposes of minimum attendance requirements, a student shall not be counted as present for a class if the student misses more than thirteen minutes of class, whether through tardiness or early departure.
 - When the student is approaching the halfway mark (7 days) of the allowable maximum number of class absences (14 days), the teacher will complete and submit to the High

School Office an Attendance Deficiency Notice. This will be mailed to the parent to notify them of the excessive absences.

- Students are responsible for ALL work that is missed due to an absence. Excessive absences may result in failure of the course.

- A review sheet of main topics will be presented prior to each exam, its' completion will not result in an individual grade although it is highly recommended that it is done.
- Keep a three-ringed binder with all class materials (lecture notes, articles, labs, handouts) contained in it, in order to have sufficient materials from which to study for exams, quizzes and the final exam which is cumulative.
- Hand work in on time. Daily assignments will not be accepted late. Major assignments that are late will be accepted with a penalty at the discretion of the instructor.
- Participate in class discussions and ask questions.
- Seek extra help from the instructor outside of class.
- Pace yourself as you study for exams and quizzes. Review class materials nightly as we go, don't procrastinate and cram for assessments the day/night before.

Grading Policy

- This is a college level course and the grade earned will go on your permanent college transcript. Dropping this course after the date determined by Tompkins Cortland Community College will result in a "Withdrawal" which will appear on your permanent college transcript.
- Each assessment is worth a certain amount of points. There will be a total possible amount of points that can be achieved in each grading period in each category of assessment.
- Each category of assessment is weighed as follows:
 - Lab/Projects – 25%
 - Assignments – 25%
 - Exams/Quizzes 30%
 - Final Exam & Independent Project – 20%
- For the purpose of your college transcript through Tompkins Cortland Community College, letter grades will be assigned as follows:

93+ = A	83-86 = B	70-71 = C	58-61 = D
90-92 = A-	80-82 = B-	65-69 = C-	55-57 = D-
87-89 = B+	75-79 = C+	62-64 = D+	55 and below = F

- I do not curve.

1. Lecture

Most Units will start with an introduction that will be lecture format. Lecture format will be used throughout Unit plans as well. Most lectures are given in the form of PowerPoint presentations and or/ SmartBoard documents. All lecture materials should be recorded and will be used for exams, quizzes and the cumulative final exam.

2. Laboratory Experiences

- Most Units will contain at least one, hands-on laboratory experience in order to reinforce the content of lecture material. There will be at least one formal, written lab report that will follow a specific format that is outlined as an attachment to this document.

3. Online Animations – Virtual Explorations

- Short video clips are used in various Units in order to support class content. Some video experiences will require written personal reflections based on the material presented. Material presented in these clips will be included on quiz/exam assessments
- Virtual Explorations include the use of online sources for curriculum supplement. Material presented in this format also will be included on quiz/exam assessments.

4. ENVS Google Classroom

- I have set up a Google Classroom account for this course. Many course documents will be accessible through this site. Written assignments can also be submitted through this site, and class discussions may be posted here as well.

5. Field Trips

- Throughout the course, a few educational day trips, off campus will be required. Course content covered during the field trips will be testable material.

6. Class Discussions

- Certain class discussions will be counted as assessment grades. Students will be notified when this applies. Class discussions may also be written responses via Google Classroom.

Required Readings, Presentations, Written Assignments, etc.:

- We will be exploring several different texts throughout the course of the year which are outlined above. Reading will occur outside of class. Some of the assignments will just be excerpts from the text, chosen by the instructor. Graded assessments of reading material may take the form of quizzes, class discussions, written summaries, and written reflections.

- Quizzes and Exams will consist of: multiple choice, true/false, short/long answer written responses. Content will be based on lecture material, assigned readings, field trip experiences, lab work, virtual explorations, video content, and class discussions. The final exam will be cumulative.
- Presentations of research may vary in format (poster presentation, oral with visual supplementation, Google Slideshow) but must contain original work. Our Library Media Specialist will help students to explore the use of databases for research. The use of these databases will be an expectation for some assignments. All work must also be accompanied by formal MLA citation.
- Lab write ups will vary in form, from completion of analysis questions and graphing of collected data, to formal, written laboratory reports with a predetermined format (outlined below).
- Current article reviews pertaining to course content will be used throughout the course of most Units. "Critical Thinking" questions following the reading of an article may be comprehension based and/or personal reflection. Graded class discussion may also be a form of assessment for assigned articles.

Make-Up Policy/Late Work:

- Hand work in on time. Daily assignments will not be accepted late. Major assignments that are late will be accepted with a penalty at the discretion of the instructor.

Statement of Academic Integrity:

- If an incidence of academic dishonesty is suspected, the student(s) involved will meet with the instructor to discuss the allegations. The result of such a meeting will be at the discretion of the instructor, but it will likely be an assignment grade of 0 and a formal warning.
- If a second incidence of academic dishonesty is suspected, the student(s) involved will meet with the instructor, the principal, and their legal guardians. The result of such a meeting will be at the discretion of the instructor and the building principal, but in such a case, the student may be asked to withdraw from the course.

Tompkins Cortland Community College's Statement of Academic Integrity

Every student at Tompkins Cortland Community College is expected to act in an academically honest fashion in all aspects of his or her academic work: in writing papers and reports, in taking examinations, in

performing laboratory experiments and reporting the results, in clinical and cooperative learning experiences, and in attending to paperwork such as registration forms.

Any written work submitted by a student must be his or her own. If the student uses the words or ideas of someone else, he or she must cite the source by such means as a footnote. Our guiding principle is that any honest evaluation of a student's performance must be based on that student's work. Any action taken by a student that would result in misrepresentation of someone else's work or actions as the student's own — such as cheating on a test, submitting for credit a paper written by another person, or forging an advisor's signature — is intellectually dishonest and deserving of censure.

Additional Assistance:

- This is a college course and will require college level work and attendance. Extra help may be needed from the course instructor and can be obtained during free periods and/or after school upon prior notice.

Parent/Guardian Statement of Understanding:

_____ have read and understand the content of this
(Parent/Guardian Printed Name)

course syllabus, including the fact that this is a college course and therefore my child will be held to college standards pertaining to this course, as outlined by the Tompkins Cortland Community College through which this course is accredited. I also understand that my child will be creating (adding to) their permanent college transcript, which is accessible by all college institutions.

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)

(Student Signature)

(Date)